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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

7

Application Number

09/746,508

Filing Date

December 26, 2000

First Named Inventor

Willis et al.

Art Unit

3627

Examiner Name

J.A. Kramer

Attorney Docket Number

20009.0001US01 (BS99-184)

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached | <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation | <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer | Return Postcard |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement | <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund | PTO SB08 - 3 pages |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | Copies of 4 non-patent documents (3 books and EP 0712227) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD | Check in the amount of \$180.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | Remarks | |

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

| | | | |
|--------------|---------------------|----------|--------|
| Firm Name | WITHERS & KEYS, LLC | | |
| Signature | | | |
| Printed name | James D. Withers | | |
| Date | September 14, 2006 | Reg. No. | 40,376 |

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

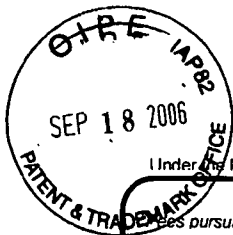
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|------|--------------------|
| Signature | | | |
| Typed or printed name | James D. Withers | Date | September 14, 2006 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /R.W./



PTO/SB/17 (12-04)

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Effective on 12/08/2004.

Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818).

FEE TRANSMITTAL
For FY 2005☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27**TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT** (\$) 180.00**Complete if Known**

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Application Number | 09/746,508 |
| Filing Date | December 26, 2000 |
| First Named Inventor | Willis et al. |
| Examiner Name | J.A. Kramer |
| Art Unit | 3627 |
| Attorney Docket No. | 20009.0001US01 (BS99-184) |

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)☒ Check ☐ Credit Card ☐ Money Order ☐ None ☐ Other (please identify): _____☐ Deposit Account Deposit Account Number: _____ Deposit Account Name: _____

For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, **except for the filing fee**☐ Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayments of fee(s) under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17☐ Credit any overpayments**WARNING:** Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**FEE CALCULATION****1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES**

| Application Type | FILING FEES | | SEARCH FEES | | EXAMINATION FEES | | Fees Paid (\$) |
|------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| | Fee (\$) | Small Entity Fee (\$) | Fee (\$) | Small Entity Fee (\$) | Fee (\$) | Small Entity Fee (\$) | |
| Utility | 300 | 150 | 500 | 250 | 200 | 100 | _____ |
| Design | 200 | 100 | 100 | 50 | 130 | 65 | _____ |
| Plant | 200 | 100 | 300 | 150 | 160 | 80 | _____ |
| Reissue | 300 | 150 | 500 | 250 | 600 | 300 | _____ |
| Provisional | 200 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | _____ |

2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES

| Fee Description | Fee (\$) | Small Entity Fee (\$) |
|---|----------|-----------------------|
| Each claim over 20 or, for Reissues, each claim over 20 and more than in the original patent | 50 | 25 |
| Each independent claim over 3 or, for Reissues, each independent claim more than in the original patent | 200 | 100 |
| Multiple dependent claims | 360 | 180 |

| Total Claims | Extra Claims | Fee (\$) | Fee Paid (\$) | Multiple Dependent Claims | Fee (\$) | Fee Paid (\$) |
|---|--------------|----------|---------------|---------------------------|----------|---------------|
| _____ - 20 or HP = _____ | x _____ | = _____ | | | | |
| HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20 | | | | | | |
| Indep. Claims | Extra Claims | Fee (\$) | Fee Paid (\$) | | | |
| _____ - 3 or HP = _____ | x _____ | = _____ | | | | |
| HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3 | | | | | | |

3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

| Total Sheets | Extra Sheets | Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof | Fee (\$) | Fee Paid (\$) |
|---------------------|--------------|--|----------|---------------|
| _____ - 100 = _____ | / 50 = _____ | (round up to a whole number) x _____ | = _____ | |

4. OTHER FEE(S)

Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)

Other: IDS filing fee

Fees Paid (\$)

\$180.00

SUBMITTED BY

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Signature | | Registration No. 40,376 (Attorney/Agent) | Telephone 678-565-4748 |
| Name (Print/Type) | James D. Withers | | Date September 14, 2006 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /R.W./



N 09/746,508

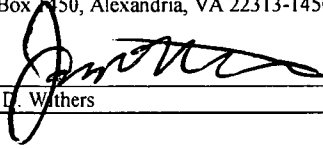
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Robert H. Willis et al. Examiner: Kramer
Serial No.: 09/746,508 Group Art Unit: 3627
Filed: December 26, 2000 Docket No.: 20009.0001US01 (BS99-184)
Title: Technician Communications System with Automated Claims Processing

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 14, 2006.

By: 
Name: James D. Withers

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2))

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed SB08 form are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted after first office action on the merits but before an action closing prosecution. This information disclosure statement is being submitted with the appropriate fee due.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each foreign patent document and non-patent literature listed on the enclosed SB08 form is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any prior art reference is intended.

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188.00 OP

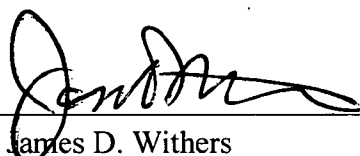
ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /R.W./

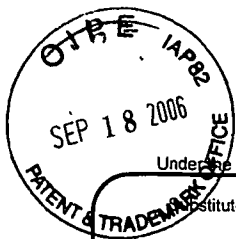
Application Number: 09/746,508
Attorney Docket Number: 20009.0001US01

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached SB08 form, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 503025.

WITHERS & KEYS, LLC
P.O. Box 2049
McDonough, GA 30253
678-565-4748

By 
Name: James D. Withers
Reg. No.: 40,376
Initials: JDW



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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Institute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 3

Complete if Known

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Application Number | 09/746,508 |
| Filing Date | December 26, 2000 |
| First Named Inventor | Willis et al. |
| Art Unit | 3627 |
| Examiner Name | Kramer |
| Attorney Docket Number | 20009.0001US01 (BS99-184) |

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| | | Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
| | 1 | US- 5,359,649 | 10/1994 | Rosu et al. | |
| | 2 | US- 5,521,958 | 05/1996 | Selig et al. | |
| | 3 | US- 5,570,283 | 10/1996 | Shoolery et al. | |
| | 4 | US- 5,687,212 | 11/1997 | Kinser, Jr. et al. | |
| | 5 | US- 5,857,201 | 01/1999 | Wright et al. | |
| | 6 | US- 5,896,440 | 04/1999 | Reed et al. | |
| | 7 | US- 5,931,917 | 08/1999 | Nguyen et al. | |
| | 8 | US- 6,026,379 | 02/2000 | Haller et al. | |
| | 9 | US- 6,233,541 | 05/2001 | Butts et al. | |
| | 10 | US- 6,366,829 | 04/2002 | Wallace et al. | |
| | 11 | US- 6,324,522 | 11/2001 | Petersen et al. | |
| | 12 | US- 6,311,178 | 10/2001 | Bi | |
| | 13 | US- 6,023,683 | 02/2000 | Johnson et al. | |
| | 14 | US- 6,058,373 | 05/2000 | Blinn | |
| | 15 | US- 6,081,789 | 06/2000 | Purcell et al | |
| | 16 | US- 6,341,271 | 01/2002 | Salvo et al. | |
| | 17 | US- 5,970,472 | 10/1999 | Allsop | |
| | 18 | US- 5,960,411 | 09/1999 | Hartman et al. | |
| | 19 | US- 5,909,492 | 06/1999 | Payne | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| | | Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | 20 | EP 0 712 227 | 05/1996 | | | |
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Examiner
Signature

/Richard Weisberger/

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

2

of

3

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| Application Number | 09/746,508 |
| Filing Date | December 26, 2000 |
| First Named Inventor | Willis et al. |
| Art Unit | 3627 |
| Examiner Name | Kramer |
| Attorney Docket Number | 20009.0001US01 (BS99-184) |

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| | | Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
| | 21 | US- 5,664,110 | 09/1997 | Green et al. | |
| | 22 | US- 6,389,337 | 05/2002 | Kolls et al. | |
| | 23 | US- 5,923,735 | 07/1999 | Swartz et al. | |
| | 24 | US- 5,038,283 | 08/1991 | Cavenay | |
| | 25 | US- 2002/0099642 | 07/2002 | Schwankl | |
| | 26 | US- 2001/0016819 | 08/2001 | Kolls | |
| | 27 | US- 6,101,472 | 08/2000 | Giangerrea et al. | |
| | 28 | US- 4,905,163 | 02/1990 | Garber et al. | |
| | 29 | US- 5,694,323 | 12/1997 | Koropitser et al. | |
| | 30 | US- 5,974,135 | 10/1999 | Breneman et al. | |
| | 31 | US- 2003/0023601 | 01/2003 | Fortier et al. | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| | | Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
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Examiner
Signature

/Richard Weisberger/

Date

Considered

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|--|------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | Complete if Known | |
| | | Application Number | 09/746,508 |
| | | Filing Date | December 26, 2000 |
| | | First Named Inventor | Willis et al. |
| | | Art Unit | 3627 |
| | | Examiner Name | Kramer |
| Sheet 3 | of 3 | Attorney Docket Number | 20009.0001US01 (BS99-184) |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ² |
| | 32 | Derfler, Frank J et al, "How Networks Work", Millennium ed., Que Corp. 1/2000 | |
| | 33 | White, Ron, "How Computers Work", Millennium ed., Que Corp. 09/1999 | |
| | 34 | Gralla, Preston, "How the Internet Works", Millennium ed., Que Corp., 08/1999 | |
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| | | /Richard Weisberger/ | |

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|--------------------|--|-----------------|------------|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | 02/05/2009 |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|------------|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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/Richard Weisberger/

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